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Proposed Amendment to Claims  
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flow at a velocity of greater than about 9.5 feet per second and less than about 20 feet per second.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the flexible matting is structured to prevent substantial soil loss from the sloped, substantially unvegetated surface when the surface is exposed to a liquid flow having a duration greater than about 30 minutes to about 50 hours.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the flexible matting is structured to prevent substantial soil loss from the substantially unvegetated, sloped surface when the surface is exposed to flow conditions having velocities of greater than about 9.5 feet per second to about 20 feet per second and a duration of greater than about 30 minutes to about 50 hours.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the fiber matrix comprises a material selected from the group consisting of coconut fibers, flax fibers, polypropylene fibers and combinations thereof.

10. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the upper layer comprises a geogrid.

11. (Original) The system according to claim 10 wherein the upper layer comprises a biaxial geogrid.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11 wherein the biaxial geogrid is stitch bonded with the core layer.

13. (Canceled)

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14. (Currently amended) An erosion control system comprising:  
a flexible matting structured to be secured to or placed on a  
surface prone to erosion, the matting comprising a core layer formed  
~~of a fiber matrix comprising~~ consisting essentially of Sudan Grass.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 wherein the  
~~fiber matrix core layer~~ is substantially absent of wheat straw.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The system of claim 14 further comprising a  
geogrid secured to the core layer.

19. (Currently amended) An erosion control system comprising:  
a flexible matting structured to be secured to or placed on a  
surface prone to erosion, the matting including a core layer  
consisting essentially formed of rice straw fibers.

20. (Currently amended) The system of claim 19 wherein the  
core layer consists essentially ~~is formed~~ of randomly oriented rice  
straw fibers.

21. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the flexible  
matting further includes a geogrid secured to an upper surface of  
the core layer.

22. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the flexible

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matting further includes a polypropylene geogrid secured to an upper surface of the core layer.

23. (New) The system of claim 1 wherein the fiber matrix has a substantially continuous, uniform thickness defined between the substantially flat upper surface and the substantially flat lower surface of the fiber matrix.